Ancient Combat

By: Matt Cappetta

The Game

Ancient combat relies on a system in which each action has a difficulty check. Difficulty checks are all made on six sided dice and may be modified by the difficulty of the check.

Difficulty Scores

The following shows difficulty checks. All die rolls are on a d6. The number is the minimum roll that must be rolled to succeed.

Difficulty	А	В	С	D	Е	F
Die Roll6+	5+	4+	3+	2+	1 +	

When rolling a difficulty score a natural 6 is always a success, while a natural 1 is always a failure.

Turn Sequence

At the beginning of the each turn both players roll 1d6. The winner may choose to be player 1 or player 2. The turn goes as follows: Player 1 Actions

Player 1 Actions Player 2 Actions Combat

Actions

Units may perform two actions per turn. They may for example move and shoot, move twice or shoot twice.

Movement

Units move the following distances in centimeters:

Unit Type	Movement Allowance
Armoured Soldiers	4
Lightly Armoured Soldiers	5
Skirmishers	5
Heavy Cavalry	9
Light Cavalry	10
Elephant	6
Chariot 9	
War Machine	1 per pusher up to 3

Terrain

There are two types of terrain. There is heavy terrain and light terrain. Units who move through light terrain receive a -1 to their move. Units who move through heavy terrain receive a -2 to their move. This only counts however for the first movement action and occurs if the unit passes through the terrain at any point during his move. Skirmishers are not penalized for moving through light terrain, and they only suffer a -1 for moving through heavy terrain. Chariots moving through heavy terrain receive a -3 modifier. Units may always move 1 regardless of terrain modifiers. The following shows what sort of terrain counts as heavy and what counts as light terrain.

Light Terrain- Light forests, underbrush, rocky ground, streams and up or down hills. Heavy Terrain- Heavy Forests, steppes, rivers, swamps and ruins.

Units moving on roads receive a +1 modifier to their first move a turn.

Shooting

All ranged weapons are categorized under one of five types. They are:

Javelin Range: 12 Power: D Note: Throwing a javelin does not count as an action. Short Bow Range: 26 Power: D

Long Bow Range 34 Power: D

<u>Crossbow</u> Range: 30 Power: E Note: To shoot a cross

Note: To shoot a crossbow one must take one action to reload and one to shoot.

To shoot a unit must first designate a target before measuring. If the unit is outside of the weapons range the shots fall sort and are wasted. If the unit is in range roll the difficulty check of the shooters, shoot skill. So for example a unit with a shoot skill of C must roll a 4+ to hit the designated target. If the units being shot at are within œ the weapons range the power of the weapon goes up one level. Once the unit hits roll to wound. The shooter rolls the difficulty check of the power of the weapon, after it has been modified by the defenders armour. If he passes the check the defender is killed. Crossbows begin the game loaded.

Wounding Units

As detailed before to wound a unit one must roll over the difficulty check of his power. This check is however modified by a number of things. The following shows how many power levels a weapon goes down for the relevant defenses:

Defence TypeReduction to Power LevelHeavy Armour-2Light Armour-1Shield-1Mounted+1Barding-1

Combat

To get into combat a unit must charge another unit. The charging unit gets a + 1 to his difficulty score. In addition if the charging unit is mounted it gets a + 2 to their difficulty score. To resolve a combat both units roll a difficulty check. Whoever gets the higher roll and passes his difficulty check wins. If one unit passes his difficulty check and the other does not the one who passed automatically wins. If both fail their combat is a standstill. Once a unit passes he must roll a power check to wound as detailed before. Units that are destroyed represent not only being killed but being wounded, or retreating from battle. If there are multiple units in a combat all units roll and whoever has the most wins win the combat. All units on the winning combat strike.

Spears

Units with spears may touch the back of a friendly unit and fight in the combat. For all purposes they are in the combat. They may be killed.

Two Handed Weapons

Units with a two handed weapon increase their power score by one.

The Next Turn

If at the end of the turn there are still units in combat all units move 1cm away from each other.

Command Units

If a command unit is within 6 cm of a unit in combat the unit gets a +1 to its combat score.

Chariots

A chariot gets +1 combat ability and +2 power on the turn it charges but gets a -1 to both if it does not charge.